



# The NUNES Report

## Congressman Nunes Supports Legislation to Help Veterans

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In May, a personally-owned computer was stolen from the home of a Department of Veterans Affairs employee. Unfortunately, the data for 26.5 million veterans – every military veteran discharged since 1975 – was stored on that computer. The stolen files contained information that included names, birth dates, and social security numbers. While the laptop has since been recovered, this information breach could have allowed identity thieves to obtain credit information and apply for credit cards.

In response to this problem, Congressman Nunes joined his colleagues in co-sponsoring H.R. 5520, the Veterans Identity Protection Act. This legislation will set up an independent Office for Veterans Identity Theft Claims to receive, process and pay claims to impacted Veterans. This accelerated claims process would take the place of Federal Tort Claims Act, which can take years and



Congressman Nunes listens as a Veteran discusses issues that impact his life

thousands of dollars to complete.

“This legislation will ensure that our veterans are buffered from any potential damages that may have resulted from this incident,” said Rep. Nunes. The Veterans Identity Protection Act is currently awaiting action before the House Judiciary Committee and quick action is expected on this vital piece of legislation.

Furthermore, Congressman Nunes recently sent a letter urging the Chairmen and Ranking Members of the Appropriations Committee to support

President Bush’s recommendation of \$85 million for the State Extended Care Facilities Grant Program for Veterans. This program provides funds to construct and maintain extended care facilities through a federal-state match. While the President requested \$85 million for 2007, the Congressman would encourage increases to enable California to accelerate work on these vital projects. He also requested that the grants cover both the construction of new homes and for improvements to existing extended care facilities.

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